

Minutes of Special and Regular Meeting of January 9, 2018

SPECIAL MEETING (Emergency Operations Center) CALL TO ORDER: 6:25 P.M.

STUDY SESSION

California Housing Law Update

City Attorney Rennie noted that five new Senate and ten new Assembly laws governing housing went into effect January 1, 2018. He outlined the Housing Accountability Act (HAA), which provides that a housing project that conforms with all of a city's objective standards may not be denied or reduced in density, and this regulation applies to both market and affordable projects.

City Attorney Rennie also reviewed the City of Belmont's RNHA numbers (Regional Housing Need Allocation), and noted that the Housing Element must list sites that can accommodate housing units in all income categories. He explained that if the City approves a project with fewer total units than those outlined in the Housing Element, it must find other sites to accommodate the remaining units.

City Attorney Rennie noted that the State's intent with the 2017 amendments to HAA is to limit the ability of local governments to deny, reduce the density for, or render infeasible, housing development projects. He pointed out that these new laws provide for less discretionary review, more streamlining, and will require the refinement of objective standards.

Councilmember Stone recommended quarterly updates on this subject.

ADJOURNMENT at this time, being 7:00 P.M.

Attended by: Councilmembers Hurt, Stone (arr. 6:30), Lieberman, Kim

Terri Cook
City Clerk

REGULAR MEETING (City Council Chambers)

CALL TO ORDER 7:10 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Hurt, Lieberman, Stone, Kim
Councilmembers Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Thalia Cheung, Rethink Waste Poster Contest winner

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Recognition of Rethink Waste Poster Contest Winner

Nicole Lee, Rethink Waste, described the annual poster contest and she stated that hundreds of

posters are submitted by students throughout the County of San Mateo. She noted that Thalia Cheung, a student at Belmont Oaks Academy, was the second-place winner.

Thalia Cheung, poster contest winner, described the inspiration for her poster.

Get Us Moving San Mateo County

Russ Arnold, San Mateo County Transit Authority, described a new public outreach program “Get Us Moving San Mateo County,” to help identify options for improving public transportation throughout San Mateo County. He provided demographic and population statistics, as well as projected growth information. He noted that a majority of the new housing developments are geared towards public transit riders. He also provided statistics on paratransit needs.

Mr. Arnold outlined options that have been identified to help ease traffic congestion, and described the funding necessary to implement these options. He also described monies available, and what new monies would be needed. He noted the potential ballot measure for November 2018 that could provide additional funds. He described the current and near-future outreach program that will be undertaken.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Kathleen Beasley, Belmont Library Manager, outlined upcoming programs and concerts to be held at the Library.

COUNCILMEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Stone announced an upcoming Senior Showcase on elder care, hosted by the San Mateo Daily Journal. He also announced the Martin Luther King Caltrain Ride. He noted that County Supervisor David Pine was named President of the Board of Supervisors, and Carol Groom is now Vice President. He made note of the Parks and Recreation Commission’s aggressive agenda. He announced the upcoming funeral for former Councilmember Reed.

Councilmember Hurt announced the upcoming celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King at the Good Shepherd Church.

Mayor Kim reminded residents to keep their storm drains clear, and he pointed out the availability of sandbags. He noted that the California Parks and Recreation Department is offering scholarships.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS REGARDING CONSENT CALENDAR

In response to Councilmember Stone’s inquiry regarding Measure I revenues as reflected on the Monthly Financial Report, Finance Director Fil stated that \$800,000 has been received since July, and that adjustments are being made on a monthly basis.

Perry Kennan, Belmont resident, commented regarding the resolution acknowledging former Councilmember Reed. He expressed his appreciation for his service.

ITEMS APPROVED ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting of November 28, 2017

Resolution 2018-001 approving an amendment to Task Order #4 with HydroScience Engineers, Inc. for an additional budget of \$54,440, with a ten percent contingency for the Ralston Sewer Rehabilitation Project Phase II (RSRP-II).

Monthly Financial Reports - November

Resolution 2018-002 acknowledging former Councilmember Eric Reed's service to the community

ACTION: On a motion by Councilmember Stone, seconded by Councilmember Hurt, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

2035 General Plan, Belmont Village Specific Plan, and Climate Action Plan

Implementation

Community Development Director de Melo described near-term development opportunities. He noted the need to quantify incentives for projects that provide community benefits. He explained that the City Council can discuss this in more detail at the upcoming priority setting meeting.

Councilmember Hurt expressed the need to identify strengths, opportunities and weaknesses as a basis for discussion. She also noted the need to work with property owners, and to seek public/private partnerships.

In response to Mayor Kim, Community Development Director de Melo explained the Planning Commission's role in the implementation of the new plans. He noted that most new projects will likely be in compliance with the new plans. He stated that the City Council has more say in projects addressing community benefits.

Mayor Kim pointed out that the addition of central parking could be the catalyst for potential developers.

COMMISSION, COMMITTEE, AND COUNCIL INTERGOVERNMENTAL ASSIGNMENT UPDATES, AND STAFF ITEMS

Verbal report from Councilmembers on Intergovernmental (IGR) and Subcommittee

Assignments

Councilmember Stone provided updates on a recent Sam Trans Board meeting and Caltrain meeting. He noted that this spring marks the 50th anniversary of Operation Eagle, the first adopt-a-unit in San Mateo County. He stated that members of Belmont's Adopt-A-Unit will be in town in late March.

Councilmember Hurt reported on a recent South Bayside Waste Management Authority meeting.

Councilmember Lieberman reported on a recent Silicon Valley Clean Water Agency meeting

Mayor Kim reported on a recent C/CAG meeting.

Verbal report from City Manager

City Manager Scoles noted that a new fire engine has been ordered. He explained that the new consolidated fire department has begun meeting. He pointed out that all new fire employees are hazmat trained. The Parks and Recreation Director recruitment is under way. He provided an update on private development projects under way in Belmont. He explained that the City's website has been experiencing technical issues recently. He stated that work has begun on the customer service/security upgrades in City Hall.

Council Intergovernmental Assignments for 2018

Discussion ensued, and one change was made for the Liaison to the Senior Advisory group. Councilmember Stone agreed to take the primary delegate role for that assignment. All other assignments will await the appointment of a new City Council member.

Consideration of Applications for City Council Vacancy and Discussion Regarding Potential Next Steps in the Appointment Process

City Manager Scoles outlined options for the selection process for a new councilmember.

Council concurred not to consider late applications.

Councilmember Stone stated that he is impressed with the caliber and number of candidates, and pointed out that there are many newcomers to Belmont. He also noted that several commissioners have applied. He expressed a desire to select someone who can hit the ground running, and someone who has a proven track record of community involvement. He expressed support for a process like that used in 2014.

Councilmember Hurt expressed a desire to select someone who can get up to speed quickly. She noted that the interview process is important, and there is a need to select someone invested in the success of the City and to continue the great work the City Council has been doing.

Councilmember Lieberman expressed support for the interview process. He pointed out that getting up to speed will not be difficult if the person is committed. He does not want this issue to get in the way of an appointment.

Mayor Kim stated that he is looking for a compelling motivation to serve. He pointed out that the pool of candidates represents a diversity of experience. He explained that one factor for him is what part of town the candidate lives. He suggested that those not appointed seek ways to get involved.

Discussion ensued regarding which candidates to select for interview. Council concurred to interview Amir Kaspi, Julia Mates, Tom McCune, and Craig Michaels.

ADJOURNMENT at this time, being 9:00 P.M.

Terri Cook
City Clerk